A BRIEFE DISCOVRSE OF THE *ASSAVLT, COMMITTED VPON THE PERSON OF* the most noble Prince, the Lord *William Prince of Orange, Earle* of Nassau, Marques de la vere &c. By Iohn Iauregui Spanierd.

Imprinted in London at the three Cranes in *the Vintree by Thomas* Dawson for T.C. and W.B. 1582.

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Grace and peace from God &c.

THou hast here (good Christian Reader) a true narration, of that horrible fact committed against that godly and great person, my Lord the Prince of Orange, together with the writings, depositions, examinations and letters of sundrie heynous offenders in this wicked and cruell deed: some of which are alreadie executed, thankes be to God for such iustice; the other, howsoeuer they are escaped, as yet free from the punishment of men, haue, without vnfeigned repentaunce, greater iudgementes laid vp in store for them, with the Lorde, who will plentifully punishe such treacherous and traiterous dealing. Concerning the credite and trueth of this discourse, it is so plaine and sufficient, that neither all the Spaniardes in the worlde, nor all their fauourites whatsoeuer or wheresoeuer shalbe able iustly anie manner of way, to impugne or disgrace the same. The blow was giuen, the greater is the sinne: & the good Prince greeuously wounded, the more is the pitie, if the Lorde had otherwise seene it good. A Spaniard was the first broacher of it, by publishing that horrible proscription which by the Princes Apologie, is fully answeared, both to the greate shame and discredite of some, & also to the wonderful glorie and commendation of that good Prince. And as a Spaniarde deuised it, and a Spaniarde performed it, sundrie of that proude and cruell nation, being combried and comperted in it, as some of their owne confessions, yeelded before Gods magistrates, doe plainely witnesse it, whereby they haue bewrayed their mischieuous mindes, though (thankes bee to God for it) they haue hitherto missed of their purpose: so I must needes say it, that if anie shoulde be so shamelesse as to denie it, or so beastly, as to blanch it, or iustifie it (as I feare me some, and that no small some are) I

combined

I meane the death of the partie which also I pray God they may long want & the church enioy his life, for the furtherance of Gods glory in the same.

A woulde

would no more cõtend with such, thẽ with those, that would denie the Sunne to shine at noone dayes. If there bee none such amongest vs, then there is no hurt done. But if they be here, or els where in the world (as Fraunce, Scotland, & Flaunders nowe at the last, haue yeelded vs some feare-full examples) & it is to be thought, that wee haue too too manie, of that same Iesuiticall sect, who blush not, both to reason too & fro concerning suche questions, and to labour the attempting thereof (as we haue had of late proofe sufficient) and that not to the mayming of meane men, but to the hurting of the highest (whom I beseech God in mercie long to preserue) then I would haue such to knowe and vnderstand that to thẽ it is that I speake, not in heate against their persons, or to aggranate their offences, which are so greeuous, as no weight of wordes, can make them more heinous, but in the sincere zeale of God, in the duetiful reuerence of his Maiestie, in sounde affection to the common wealth & countrey, & in loue vnfeygned towardes them, wishing from my heart their heartie conuersion, if they appertaine to God, or els their vtter and speedie confusion (specially if they bee such as the Lorde hath sealed vp against the day of his wrath) for their stubbornes in heresies, touching matters of faith, & their practises against the best in matters of estate. but enough of this matter at this time. The principall point that I would haue the godly reader (of what state or cõditiõ soeuer he be) to regard in this narration is, to labor to make it profitable to himself, that as generally it may instruct all, not to beleeue euery flying tale, but to let goe running rumors & reportes, & withal earnestly to pray to God for all his childrẽ (my meaning is while they are aliue) that be so ouertaken, and namely for this good Prince his faithfull seruant, that according to Gods good pleasure, he and they all whatsoeuer in the like dangers, may recouer their woundes, & learne more Christian care

and

and godlie wiſedome in time hereafter to come: ſo particu-
lerlie, it may teach euery one, euē the higheſt firſt, & name-
ly this, whom it doth moſt chiefly concerne, that ſeeing that
for their well doing, the enemies meane ſuch miſchiefes a-
gainſt them, they may carefully looke vnto themſelues, that
they be not ſurpriſed with ſuch popiſh practiſes, beeing al-
wayes verie circumſpect whom they admit to their preſēce
and ſpeach, and ſo preuent ſuch fearefull daungers: and the
loweſt next, to pray to the Lorde, as for themſelues, that
they be not intrapped, ſo chiefly for theſe that be their ſuc-
ceſſors (becauſe if the head or principal members be ſtrokē,
the whole bodie is in daunger of death and deſtructiō) that
they may liue long and gouerne alſo, in truth, peace & god-
lines, without any ſuch wicked attempt, to be either deui-
ſed or performed againſt them or anie of them: which God
graunt, as to all nations profeſſing his worde and truth, ſo
particulerly to the nation and countrey of England, euē for
his munified Chriſtes ſake: that ſo the land may flouriſhe,
by the long life and proſperous raigne, of theſe that be in
authoritie, and the Church increaſe, by the pure doctrine
of the Goſpel alreadie eſtabliſhed, and by the
planting of Gods holie Diſcipline. So
beit.

A BRIEFE DISCOVRSE OF THE *ASSAVLT COMMITTED* VPON THE PERSON OF the moſt noble Prince the Lorde *Prince of Orange, Earle of Naſſau* Marques de la vere &c. By Iohn Iauregui Spanierd.

MY LORD THE Prince of Orange hauing hearde the Sermon in the Churche vppon Sundaye the xviii. of Marche 1582, repayred to his houſe, ſcituate in the place where ſometime the Caſtle of Antwerpe ſtoode, beeyng companied with ſundrie Lordes and Gentlemen, of whom parte ſtayed dinner with him; Imme-

diatlie after he dined openlie (as he was wont) in the great hall of the said house, & there bare him cõpanie my Lords the Earles of Laual, of Hohẽlo: also my Lords his childrẽ & two of his neuewes the sõnes of my Lorde the Earle Iohn of Nassau; the Lords of Boniuet, of Pruneaux & other gẽtlemẽ. The dinner was spẽt in sũdry honest speeches & cõmunications: & amõgst other matters they spake of the cruelties committed by the Spaniards in these parts. A while after dinner the said L. Prince repaired toward his withdrawing chãber, meaning to haue gone to his chãber with the said Lords & gẽtlemẽ, & going by he shewed thẽ by the way a peece of tapistry wherin the spanish souldiers were liuely set forth: at the verie instãt wherof a yoũg mã of low stature, shot of a dagge at him which was charged with one onlie bullet, & smote him vnder the right eare, which bullet passing through his pallate the saide bullet came forth at his left cheeke neere vnto his vpper iaw: the said Lord (as since he hath oftẽ reported,) wist not what the matter was, but supposed that some part of the house was fallẽ down, for he felt not himself to be strokẽ & yet notwithstãding his sight was for a while dazeled. Immediatlie some of the Lords & gẽtlemen, as were then next at hãd stroke the said young man twise or thrise into the bodie with their swords, & so the said L. Princes gard drawing nigh made an end of hĩ with their haulberts. In the meane time the said Lord being aduertised what had happened, & the rather by feeling the fire that had takẽ hold of his hayre, &

hearing the noise about the murderer cried out, kill him not, I forgiue him my death, and so turning to sundrie french Lords, said vnto them: O how faithful a seruãt doth his highnes lose! & so was straight led betweene two that held him vp vnder the armes into his chamber: For he coulde goe, & fel not with the blow. The bruite hereof was presently al ouer the towne, which brought all men into a maze by reason of so sodaine and vnloked for a matter, & that in the person of such a one, as among al men was holden and reputed for a deliuerer of the coũtrie: further because the murderer was presently dead, al men iudged that the way to verifie and iustifie the fact, was quite shut vp. Many & diuers were the speeches hereof: some through suspitiõ accusing others & few hitting vpon the truth: & attributing the least to thẽ who were the very authors indeed: so as if such a deed had bin cõmitted in many townes where the people haue the bridle at liberty, and may at their pleasure runne frõ place to place, it had bin likely that some great mischiefe and inconuenience might haue ensued: But in the town of Antwerp such is the order and obedience that al men doe yeeld to their magistrates, Coronels & Captaines, that immediatly al the Citizens withdrew thẽselues to their auncients, eche one in his quarter: and the cheines being drawne, & the bodie of the gard filled, there was no way left for any to departe from his garde but the Captaines. My L. the Duke of Brabant, was speedilie aduertised

He meaneth Monsieur the Duke of Anious

of this mishappe, and at the first they certified his highnes of no other then death; who was sore astonied, and sighing very deepely, complained to himself of the extreme losse which therby he susteined: repeating oftētimes, that if the king his owne father had bin aliue again, he could not haue beene more sory for his death, then for the death of the saide Lo. Prince; where on the other side the said Lo. Prince bewayled him no lesse, reheatsing often times these wordes: Alas poore Prince! Alas poore Prince! what pains must thou yet take: whiles most part of his seruants which were presēt, as also those who at the bruite of the newes were comen in, imployed thēselues about the said L. Princes person, his sonne, my Lorde the Earle Maurice, notwithstanding his heauy mourning departed not from the dead corpes, which he caused to be searched: & first they light vpō the dagge which was fallen out of his hand, that caused them to thinke that he had no means to vse a dagger which they founde naked in his breeches. In the meane seasō my Lord the Earle of Hohenlo: for feare of further inconuenience, causing the said L. Princes gard & diuers Gentlemen to follow him, seased vppon the doores of the house, so to keepe all suche as were not very well knowen from comming in or going forth. The dead corps being farther searched, they fouād about him certaine papers & Pamphlets which were deliuered to the saide Earle Maurice, who presently

presently meeting one of my L. his fathers men, shewed him the sayd papers, saying with teares: see what this wretch had about him: who answered him. My L. be not dismayed, God is able to preserue my Lo. your father, but keepe wel these papers: for we are greatly troubled about discouering somewhat of this curled wretche: for otherwise in this towne wee shall incurre greate perill. Whereto hee replied Alas, I feare greately least heere bee some other villaine that will take them from mee. And in truth this young Lorde was moued so to say by reason of a reporte raysed by some in the hall: that those that hadde slayne the murderer were confederate, and that therefore it were good to make them sure; whereby the daunger beganne to light vppon the sayde Lorde Princes best friendes and houshold seruaunts. Vppon these woordes of the sayde young Earle the said seruaunt hidde him vnder his cloke, and saide vnto him, my Lorde come from hence with mee and I will bestowe your papers safe, which hee did, leading him into the roofe of the house, Then committing the saide papers into safe custodie, hee perceiued that they were written altogether in Spanish: and therefore said to the Earle, My Lorde you are in no daunger, therefore returne and cause diligent searche, and I for my parte will repayre to my Lorde, which was done. Then the saide seruaunt began to

assure all men that it was a Spaniards deed, and therefore willed them to abandon all former suspitions. And soone after the said young Earle returned with more papers, certaine crosses, and an Agnus Dei with a candle of greene waxe, & two peeces of skinne like to Beuers skinnes, which caused diuers to report that hee had about him Toades and inchauntments. Then began the said seruant to reade the first papers, which he found to be partly prayers and partely vowes, and afterward brake vp three ones of a packet of letters, which he found to be writte in Spanish from one Spaniard to another, whereof he assured al men, but he would not alone open the rest. Soone after came in the L. of S. Aldegonde, who already had beene on a message with his highnesse, & at his comming in he sayd to the said seruant, we must take counsaile what we haue to doe, for the towne is in a wonderfull trouble; whereupon he was answered: My L. if you please that wee withdraw our selues to conferre hereof, I suppose we shal soone finde counsaild readie. Then because of the preasse that was about them, they withdrew themselues and the saide L. opened the rest of the said packet, wherein they found two letters of exchange, one of 2000. crownes, the other of 877. with letters of aduise, all in Spanish, and written by Spaniardes: the bookes were of seruices to be performed at certaine set houres: also one Iesuites Catechisme, and writing tables, written from one end to another. Then (praising God that he had so farre forth opened

the matter vnto them) the Lo. of St. Aldegonde determined that himselfe would goe straight to the towne house, and that passing by the body of the garde, he would assure them that it was a Spanish deed; also that he was in good hope so to verifie it: and that he woulde carrie with him the writing tables, and the chiefe parte of the writinges, also that the other should repayre to his highnesse with the rest, to aduertise him and not to depart from his person: which was done. The said Lo. of St. Aldegonde also in passing by, entred into his highnesse lodging and shewed him the said papers. In the meane time was the first dressing. And the Lo. Prince was layde in his bed and afterward such as were next about him and most skilfull, beganne to conceiue some sparke of hope: by reason he had his sight and spake well, especially because his vnderstanding & iudgmẽt was very certain, also that being forbiddẽ much speech he wrote stedfast & quick. While these things were in doing there came in one of the captaynes of the town, named Lion Petit, demanding whether he were aliue or dead, who, when the saide seruant requested him to let the said Lo. Prince take his rest for that time, affirming that he hoped of his recouery, answered that the people would neuer be content vnles he assured them that he had seen him: Whereupon he was caused to enter in: thẽ after some speeches, demãding what it pleased the L. Prince to cõmãd him, he said: Cõmend me hartily to the people, & wil thẽ not to trouble thẽselues, & if it please god

to take me to him selfe that they obey and faithfully serue this Prince, for I knowe none in the worlde better or more meete for them. His highnesse hauing seene the letters of Exchaunge and other the writinges brought vnto him, commended them to Martini the Recorder of the Towne, who then was with him to carrie them to the magistrate of the Towne and to examine those to whom the letters of Exchaunge were directed: In the meane time hauing assembled the counsell of estate, hee dispatched a Commission directed vnto the generall estates, the counsayle of estate, the magistrate of the Towne, the Coronelles, Captaynes and Wardens of occupations with all diligence to proceede, commanding all men vnder paine of death to declare what they knewe concerning the sayde murderer. Now had the magistrate in the meane time (who alreadie had begunne to proceede heerein and by the sayde papers and writinge tables had founde that the murderer was of the house of a Spaniarde named Iasper d'Anastro) taken order that all that were in the sayde house shoulde bee committed to prison, which was done. But they founde that the saide Anastro himselfe departed the tuesday before towarde Bruges. Then were the Coronels and Captaynes aduertised by the magistrate, also all the inhabitants by their Gouernors that all this webbe

webbe was woue̅ by the Spaniards: wherevpon the whole towne grewe to quietneſſe, remaining neuertheleſſe in armes, for the aſſiſtãce of iuſtice. At the firſt examinatiõ of Anthony Venero they could not find any great matter but this only, that they knew the murderers perſon: Howbeit for that he confeſſed that the ſame day Maſſe had bin celebrated ſecretely in the ſaide Annaſtaro his houſe, at all aduẽtures vpõ ſuſpitiõ they apprehẽded one Antonie Timmermã, of the order of the white Friers. Neuertheleſſe it was decreed, that the murderers body ſhoulde be ſet vpõ a ſcaffold in the towne to ſhew it to the people, to the ende to know it, which thing was done: but ſo ſoone as he was ſeene in the Great market place, euerie one knew it preſẽtly to be the bodie of Iohn Iauregui a Spaniard, the ſeruant of Iaſper Annaſtro: yea the ſaid Venero ſeeing him dead, knew him. The next morning the xix. of March as all the gates of the towne of Antwerp were diligentlie kept, in the morning the poſt of Bruges arriued, who hauing ſhewed his letters to the gard of the riuer gate there were found letters of the ſaid Annaſtro directed to Venero, which were carried to his highnes & to the magiſtrate of the towne. Further the magiſtrate appointed, that the ſame daie the murderers bodie ſhould be quartered, & his head ſet vpon the bulwarke toward Ril, and his quarters vpon the iiii. principall gates, which was done. The next day his highnes & the Coũſaile of eſtate decreed, that throughout all the

churches there should be extraordinarie prayers vnto God for the health of the said Lo. Prince. Also by the magistrate of the towne his appointmēt, the next wednesday being the 21. of the said moneth, was by trūpet proclaimed throughout the towne a generall fast, with common prayers: also cōmādemēt was giuē that euery man should that day leaue all worke, to the end to attend fasting & prayer. Annastro his letters were shewed to Venero, who seing himselfe therby cōfounded & cōuicted, & being, as by his cōfession it appeareth, admonished by one of the Coronels & others, required paper & ink, & with his own hād wrote & signed his 2. cōfessiō. The L. Prince thinking the houre of his decease to draw neer, dispatched the L. of S. Aldegōd with letters directed to to the general estates, wherin, as his last cōsel, he wished thē to persist in his highnes obedience, declaring vnto thē that he iudged him to be the only prince, that was most fit for thē, according to the tenure wherof the said lords sent their deputies to his highnes, to aduertise hī of their faithfull affectiō. Vpō wednesday folowīg was the fast with extraordinary praiers celebrated, & þ with suche multitude & cōcourse of people, in al þ churches of both lāguages, as time out of mind the like nūbers of people haue not bin seene in the churches of Antwerp, neither so many weping eies. How beit for that the phisitiōs & surgeōs begā to conceiue some hope of the recouery of the saide Lo. Prince, the praiers were partly mixed with thāks giuings for this good beginning, with humble supplicatiō, that it might please God to accōplishe

his health. Now beganne the saide Lo. princes person to draw to amendement, and dayly did his highnesse carefully visit him, who seemed, & indeed did take great care for him, as likewise the L. prince did for him, vpō euery occasiō commending his seruice. On the other side the Magistrate was as diligent in proceeding against the offenders, so as finally he atteyned to the truth of the whole matter: as it will appeare in the depositions of the said offendors. But the Lo. prince hearing that they purposed to proceed to definitiue sentence, did by writing expressely commād the Lo. of St Aldegond, to request the magistrate to punish them with the easiest death that might be: which was done: for by the magistrates sentēce the wednesday 28. of the said moneth they were set at a stake vpon a scaffold in the middest of the great market, ouer against the towne house and by the hangmā strangled, their bodies quartered & hāged ouer the chiefe gates of the town, & their heads pitched vpon 2. of the great bulwarks which heretofore were part of the castle. Anthony Timmerman the white Frier the same day exhibited his second confessiō, wherin he acknowledged that he had beene of opinion that the said Iaregui might with a safe coſcience execute the said enterprise: but that now being better instructed by such good admonitions as had bin giuen him, he confessed that he had erred, & therfore besought the Lords of Iustice not to forget his said protestation, if euer this processe came to be published,

Within

Within few dayes after the sayd execution, his highnesse receiued from sundrie places letters which the prince of Parma had written to the townes, wherein he indeuoured to perswade thē to withdraw themselues from his obedience, laiyng his foundation vpō the death of the said Lo. Prince, wherupon the said townes besought his highnesse of counsaile. These were the Townes: Brussels, Gaunt, Bridges, Malines, Ipret, Audernarde, Dunkirk, Berghe, And sundrie others. Finally the towne of Antwerpe also receiued the like letters. Annastro also sent letters to the town of Gaunt tending to the same end, which Venero his deposition doth conteine: so that he wrote to all places where he had any accesse. All the saide letters, as well from the prince of Parma, as from Annastro were grounded vppon the assurance which they had cōceiued of the death of the said Lo. prince, whom God hath hitherto neuertheless preserued, and will still of his mercye keepe and preserue if please him.

Here after followe,

The copies of the writings found about the murderer.
The depositions of the Offenders.
The letters of Annastro and the Prince of Parma.

IESV CHRISTO NVESTRO Señor, y la Virgen ſancta Maria nueſtra Señora ſean en mi ayuda en eſta reſolucion hecha para ſu ſanctiſsimo ſeruicio.

QVE ſu Mageſtad tiene dada eſta orden por el amor que tiene à eſtos Flamencos, y por librarlos de las oppreſsiones en que eſtan.

Si eſto ſe haze, recibira el Señor à eſte pueblo en miſericordia, y hara con el las capitulaciones en toda ventaja d'ellos.

Offreſcer les he, que dentro de ocho dias que ſe haga, los vendra a tomar a miſericordia, mediante que al que hiziere eſte hecho, le traten bien, que ſera ganancia della villa hazerlo aſsi, y perdonarle la vida, pues la ha empleada tan en ſeruicio de Dios, y de ſu Yglesia, y de ſu Rey, y en honra de toda ſu nacion: y el que me regalare y tratare bien, ſe lo pagara ſu Mageſtad muy cumplidamente. Perſuaderlos que ſe ſuffran, y tengan paciencia quatro o ſeys dias, haſta que ſe le paſſe la alteracion, que deſpues todo ſe hara tan a contento de la Villa, como nunca ellos pudieren deſſear. Yo ruego a eſtos ſeñores, que miren lo que hazen en tratarme bien: porque en hazer lo que he hecho, todas las naciones lo attribuyran a virtud, y nobleza de mi nacion. Y pues aqui ſon todos tan virtuoſos, tengan attencion a tratarme bien, haſta tomar mis confeſsiones muy d'eſpacio, y por ſu orden. Y ſobre todo, yo me encomiendo en la miſericordia de Dios.

IESVS CHRIST OVR LORD

& the holie Virgine S. Marie our Ladie aſsiſte me in this my determination, which I haue vndertaken for his moſt holie ſeruice.

HIs Royall Maieſtie hath ſet down this Order for the loue he beareth to theſe Flemminges, & to deliuer them from the oppreſsions wherein they are.

This being accompliſhed the Lorde will receiue theſe people to mercy, & he will graunt them articles tending to their vttermoſt aduauntage.

I will promiſe them that within eight dayes after the deed they ſhalbe receiued into fauour, conditionally that they do well entreat him that ſhall haue done this deede. That the towne ſhall reape commodity by ſo doing, alſo to pardon him his life, conſidering he hath ſo employed it in the ſeruice of God, of the Church, & of his Kinge, & to the honour of his whole nation: & his Maieſtie will moſt liberally reward any, that ſhall furniſh him of thinges requiſite and well entreat him.

They muſt be perſwaded patiently to beare for four or ſix dayes, vntill this alteration be ouer: which being paſt, all thinges ſhall be ordered to as great contentation of the towne as themſelues could euer wiſh.

I beſeech theſe Lordes well to weigh what they do in well vſing of me: becauſe that accompliſhing this deede that I haue done, all nations will attribute it to the vertue

and

and nobilitie of my countrey.

In asmuch therfore as all men here be so vertuous, they must determine, well to entreat me, yea so farre forth as at leysure & as order requireth, to take my confessions. And aboue all thinges I commend me to the mercie of God.

IESVS MARIA.

A Vos Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, Criador del cielo y de la tierra, Señor Dios Iesus Christo, siendo seruido concederme esta victoria a mi todo misero, muy infelice peccador, y vuestro siervo, por aquellas preciosissimas cinco llagas y la preciosissima corona de spinas y los vuestros preciosissimos grandissimos trabajos, angustias, arrastradas, bofetadas, maldezires; e hiel y vinagre sobre aquello beuistes, vos todo poderoso Señor Dios Iesu Christo Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, Criador del cielo y de la tierra, todo por saluar a los peccadores del mundo, y a mi todo muy infelice peccador: y como a tal os supplico muy humilmente seays seruido concederme esta victoria cõtra este Pagano, Violador de vuestro Templo diuino, Ruina de vuestra religion sancta catholica y Romana, y el que es occasion de tanto dessassosiego a la vuestra Christiandad, y pestilencia que no attiende sino en sustentar maldades, vellaquerias y ruynas. O todo poderoso Señor Dios Iesu Christo Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, Criador del cielo y de la tierra a vos os supplico muy humilmente seays seruido no permitir que este maluado vse de mas ruinas, y conceder a mi muy indigno peccador la gracia, animo y valor, paraque despues de las vuestras preciosissimas

manos pueda ser acabado por mi. De manera que ninguno de quien yo voy vencerle, despues de vos Señor Dios Iesu Christo Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, Criador del cielo y de la tierra pueda auer poder contra mi. Pero despues siendo vos altissimo Señor Dios Iesu Christo Redemptor y Saluador del mundo Criador del cielo y de la tierra siendo seruido de que yo dexe aqui esta miserable vida, soy muy contento sea assi, y siempre como vos Señor Dios fueredes seruido. Y assi os suplico de todo coraçon todo poderoso Señor Dios Iesu Christo, por aquella vuestra preciosissima passion seays seruido concederme constancia y paciencia, paraque yo misero muy infelice peccador pueda sobrelleuar y suffrir qualquier genero de pena que me dieren, que a todo (como soy obligado) prestare muy humilde coraçon, siendo vos todo poderoso Redemptor y Saluador del mundo Criador del cielo y de la tierra seruido.

IESVS MARIA.

TO thee redeemer & sauiour of the world, creator of Heauen and earth, Lord God, Iesus Christ: If it please thee to graunt this victorie vnto me most miserable wretched sinner and thy seruant, for the loue of thy fyue most pretious woundes, and the most pretious crowne of thornes and thy most pretious grieuous laboures, anguishes, torments, stripes, and iniuries, and the gall and vineger which besides all this thou diddest drink, euen thou the almightie Lord God, Iesus Christ, the redeemer and sauiour of the world, the creator of Heauen & earth, and

all to

all to saue the sinners of this worlde, and among the reste me, the moste vnhappie sinner: and as such a one I do moste humbly beseech thee, that it may please thee, to graunt me this victory against this heathen, defiler of thy holy Tẽple, & subuerter of thy holy catholike Roman religion, who is the cause of so many disquyettes throughout thy Christiandome, and such a pestilence, as is busied onely in vpholding wickednesse, villanies, and desolations. O moste mightie Lord God Iesus Christ redeemer and Sauiour of the world, creator of heauen & earth, I do moste humbly beseech thee, that it maye please thee no longer to suffer this wretch to work farther desolations; Farther that thou wilt graunt vnto me vnworthy sinner such fauour, courage and valiancie as by thy moste precious handes I may accomplish this thinge, in such wise as none of those that do belong to him whome, with thy helpe, Lorde God, Iesus Christ Redeemer and Sauiour of the world, creator of heauen & earth I purpose to ouercome, may haue any power against mee. Howbeit in asmuch as thou art the Supreame Lord God Iesus Christ, Redeemer and Sauiour of the world, creator of heauen and earth, if it please thee that I leaue this miserable life, I am well content that it be so, & euer Lord God thy will be done. Thus moste mightie Lord God Iesus Christ I beseech thee with my whole hart for the loue of thy moste precious Pasion, that it may please thee to graunte mee constancie and patience, that I moste miserable sinner may beare and endure whatsoeuer kinde of tormentes may be laide vpon mee, whereunto I

will

will haue, as I ought, a moſt humble heart: if ſo it ſeeme good vnto thee O moſte mightie Redeemer and Sauiour of the world, creator of heauen and earth.

A Vos Señor Dios Ieſu Chriſto Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, Criador del cielo y de la tierra, os offrezco ſiendo os ſeruido librarme con vida, deſpues de hauer effectuado mi deſſeo, vn velo muy rico: y a vos Nueſtra Señora de Regona vna corona, vna ropa, vna lampara: y a vos Nueſtra Señora de Aranſazu vna corona: y a vos Nueſtra Señora de Guadalupe vna corona: a vos Señor Dios Ieſu Chriſto. Nueſtra Señora de Monſerrate: al ſancto Crucifixo de Burgos, nueſtra Señora del pilar de çaragoça.

TO thee Lord God, Ieſus Chriſte, Redeemer and Sauiour of the world, creator of heauen and earth, if it pleaſe thee to deliuer me with life, I do promiſe (after the finiſhing of my pretence,) a very rich vaile: Alſo to thee our Lady of Regona a croune, a goune, and a lampe: To thee our Lady of Arancazu one croune: & to thee our Lady of Guadalupe one croune, & to thee our Lord God Ieſus Chriſt. Alſo to our Lady of Montſerrat: to the holy Crucifixe of Burges: to our Lady of the piller of Saragoſſe.

A Vos Señor Dios Ieſu Chriſto Redemptor y Saluador del mundo, os offrezco ſiendo ſeruido librarme con vida d'eſte effecto que traygo entre manos vna ropa muy rica: y a vos

Nueſtra

Nueſtra Señora de Vegonbaan vna corona, y vna ropa, y vna lampara: y a vos Nueſtra Señora de Arançazu vna corona: y a vos Nueſtra Señora de Guadalupe vna corona: y a vos Señor Dios Ieſu Chriſto del Crucifixo de Burgos eabal offrezco vna rica ropa, y offrezco yr en Roma a vna ſemana continuando.

The Copie of that which was written in the ſix and ſeuen pages of Iohn Laureguyes writing tables.

TO the Lord God Ieſus Chriſt, redeemer and Sauiour of the worlde, I doe promiſe if it pleaſe thee to deliuer me with life out of this enterpriſe wherein I haue taken in hand, one very rich goune: To thee our Lady of Vegondaan one croune, one goune & one lampe: to thee our Lady of Arancazu one croune: & to thee our Lady of Guadalupa one croune: & to thee Lord God Ieſus Chriſt of the Crucifix of Burges I do vow one goune richly furniſhed: & doe farther vow to goe to Rome within one weeke.

AL Angel ſan Gabriel me encomiendo con todo mi ſpiritu y coraçon, paraque agora y ſiempre me ſea vn interceſſor a nueſtro Señor Ieſu Chriſto, y a ſu hijo precioſiſsimo, y a la Virgen ſancta Maria, y a todos los Sanctos y Sanctas de la corte del cielo de guardarme y enaminarme, y tenerme de ſu bendita mano ſin que yo ſea muerta ſubitamente, y me de gracia paraque pueda conſeguyr el buen zelo que tengo de ſalir con aquel efecto. Y en memoria deſto prometo de ayunar toda vna ſemana entera (deſpues de ver me libre deſto) a pan y agua, y de rezar, &c.

I do

In the tenth Page.

I Do with my whole mind and hart commend mee to the Angell Saint Gabriell, to the end that now & euer he may be my mediatour to our Lord & to Iesus Christ his most precious Sonne; & to the Virgin Mary and to all hee Saintes and shee Saintes of the heauenly court, that he will kepe & conduct me & with his blessed hand vphold me from sudden death, and to graunt mee grace to attaine to the effecte of my good zeale. In remembrance whereof I do promise that if I escape free from this deede, I will for one whole weeke fast bread & water & pray.

Ayunar todos los Viernes a intercession de la Pasion de nuestro Señor Iesu Christo; y todos los Sabados a inuocation de nuestra Señora la Virgen Maria, paraque yo sea guardado deste trasito, y me encamine a dar fin a este effecto.

In the fourteenth Page.

TO fast euery Fryday in commemoration of the passi on of our Lord Iesus Christ, and euery Saturday for the inuocation of our Lady the virgin Mary, to the end I may be preserued from this perill and that she may guyde me to the end of this enterprise.

Hecho en la carcel deſta villa de Anueres à veinte de Marco, del anno 1582. En preſentia del S^r. Malgraue, Godefrido Montens, Iacomo Zuerio, y Ludouico Blomarte Eſclauines d'ella.

ANtonio de Venero preſo, hijo de Iuan Eſpañol, naſcido de Bilbao en Biſcaia, de edad de dies y nueue à veinte años teniendo los libros de Gaſpar d'Añaſtro, mercader Eſpañol, dize auer morado con el dicho Añaſtro mas de dos años.

Preguntado s'y no ſaue quien ha eſcrito vn papel o bilete mueſtrado à el declarante hallado ſobre el muerto, el qual el domingo paſſado ha tirado con vn piſtolete la perſona de ſu Excellentia, el Principe d'Orauge, commençando el dicho billete: Nueſtro Señor Ieſu Chriſto, &c. Dize ſer eſcrito por mano de Iuan de Iaureguy.

Preguntado quien es el dicho Iuan de Iaureguy? Dize ſer Eſpañol de Bilbao en Biſcaya, ſobrino de Pedro d'Oroſco, mercader Eſpañol en Brujas, el qual Iuan vino morar con el dicho Añaſtro cerca el mez de Iulio paſſado, auiendo mientres eſcrito y copiado las cartas del dicho Añaſtro y lo que le mando.

Siendo al declarante mueſtrado el muerto y preg^d, ſi aquel es Iuan de Iaureguy ſobredicho? Dize que ſi, y que el auiendo el dicho Domingo oydo la miſſa ſalio de caſa cerca las onze horas antes de comer, y auia entrado y ſalido la caſa tres o quatro vezes.

Preg^tado quien auia dictado al dicho Iuan el dicho billette? Dize que eſta cierto que ſe lo deue de auer dictado el dicho Anaſtro, por que el no tenia Iuyzio para hazerlo de ſi.

Seyendo preguntado si no conoscia el pistolete, que le fué mostrado, con el qual es herido su Excellentia por el dicho Laureguy? Dize auer visto el mismo pistolete o semejante à el, passado seis mezes en casa del dicho Añastro, y que dicho Añastro ha embiado otros tres como ellos en España, el vno à Don Fernando de Arieta, y el otro à Don Diego d'Alua, y el tercero à Pedro Lopez d'Arieta, sin que sabe quien los pueda auer fecho, quanto costaron, o quien les pago, sea el dicho Anastro o su caxero.

Preguntado donde vienne, y quien ha hecho la vela de çera verde en que esta abaxo imprimido el senal de la crux, que el dicho Laureguy tenis sobre su cuerpo nudo con vna medailla del Saluador y la Imagen de Nuestra Sennora Maria todo mostrado à el declarante? Dize que es vna de las velas que se da à algun passagero visitando el Monasterio en Burgos en Espana, adondé esta el Crucifixo, y la Imagen esta hecha de los Iesuites en Madrid: pero no saue como el dicho Laureguy ha cobrado lo sobredicho.

Preguntado que fueron las postreras palabras que el dicho Iuan ha tenido con el declarante? Dize que la postrera vez que le habló dixo que estaua muy bien determinado para executar y accomplir su empresa, pues que se auia confessado, y que por esso seria bueno que el declarante te saluasse. sobre que el declarante le respondio que no sauia adonde yr, o saluar se: por estar cargado de los libros y papeles del dicho Annastro su amo, y que por esso quedaria cerco dellos como le auia prometido.

Preguntado à quien el dicho Laureguí se auia confessado? Dize à

ze à cierto frayle llamado Padre Antonio.

Preguntado si el dicho Padre Antonio non ha sauido d'estu empresa, quando, y porquien? Dize que el declarante no ha comunicado dello con el padre Antonio, ny ha ouydo que ninguno en publico, ny secreto aya comunicado con el; saluo que el dicho Iuan de Iaureguy le dixò que se auia confessado con el dicho Padre Antonio, y tratado d'esto negocio, y que eran en el Anastro, Iaureguy, y el declarante; y que le auia absuelto dello.

Preguntado si no saue si el dicho Gaspar de Annastro o otro uuiesse semejante empresa sobre la persona de la Sereniss. Reyna de Inglaterra, o sobre la del Sereniss. Ducque de Anjou? Dize que piensa que non.

Preguntado si conosce la carta escrita en Dunquercque à xvj. de Março, donde la sobrescription y tenor le fue preleydo? Dize que si, y ser escrita por las proprias manos del dicho Anastro: y tambien la otra carta serrada en ella es suya, y por el escrita.

Preguntado si la carta escritta en Greuelingues à xvij. d'este mez de Março esta tambien escrita por el dicho Gaspar Anastro? Dize que si, y todo esso para que se effectuasse esta empresa como paresce por el contenido d'ellas.

Preguntado si el dicho Iaureguy no tenia algun cauallo presto, o otro remedio para saluar se despues de auer cometido el delito? Dize, que no: pero que estaua determinado de morir auiendo hecho el dicho efeto, y que era tan induzido del dicho Annasto para hazer dicho efeto, que paresçia, que era encantando, y que yua muy alegremente, para hazerlo fuera la caza del dicho Anastro, despues que auia oydo la missa, y auiendo almorzando bibido vn golpe de Bastardo.

Preguntado quien era el hombre à cauallo teniendo de dieſtro otto cauallo enſilado paſeando ſe al tiempo del dicho efetto delante la corte de ſu Excell. Dize dello no ſaber nada, y que libramente declarara lo que dello ſupiera, pues que tiene declarado lo que mas importa, y ſeñaladamente no ſabe d'ello coſa alguna.

Seyendo propueſto al dicho declarante que ouieſe de nombrar y moſtrar todos los que conoſcia, o ſabia que podrian auer ſabido de la dicha empreſa. Dize que perſona del mundo, ny de dentro ny de fuera d'eſta villa ſabe hablar de la dicha empreſa, mas que dicho declarante, y el dicho Iaureguy y Gaſpar d'Añaſtro y Iuan de Yſunça, y ſu hijo Pedro de Yſunça.

Done in the priſon of this towne of Anwerpe the 20. of March 1582. in the preſence of my Lorde the Marcgraue, Godfrey Montens, Iames Zuerius & Lewes Blommart ſhirifes of the ſaid towne.

ANtony de Venero priſoner, the ſonne of Iohn a Spaniard borne in Bilbao in Biſcay, of the age of nynetene or twentie yeres, keeper of the booke of accompts of Iaſper of Annaſtro marchaunt and Spaniard borne ſaith, that he hath dwelt with the ſaide Annaſtro aboue two yeres.

Being asked whether he knowe who writ a certaine paper or remembrance which was there ſhewed to the ſaid Antony, which bill was found about the deade bo-

dy

dy of him who the Sonday before had diſcharged a dagge againſt the perſon of his excellency, the Prince of Orenge, which bill beganne, Our Lorde Ieſus Chriſt, &c. He ſaith that Iohn Iaureguy writte it with his owne hande.

Being demanded what that Iohn Iaureguy is? he saith he is a Spaniard of Bilbao in Biſcaye the coſen of Peter of Oroſco marchaunt and Spaniard borne remaining at Bruges, which Iohn came about the moneth of Iuly laſt paſt to dwell with the ſaid Annaſtro, where hetherto he hath bene employed in copying the letters of the ſaide Anaſtro, and in whatſoeuer els he commaunded him.

The deade corps being ſhewed to the ſaide deponent, and he asked whether it were the aforeſaide Iohn Iaureguy? he ſaith, yea, and that the ſaid Iohn hauing the Sunday before heard maſſe, departed out of the houſe about eleuen of the clock before noone, after he had thre or four times gone out and in at the ſaid houſe.

Being demaunded who penned the ſaide bill for the ſaide Iohn: he ſaith that the ſaide bill ſhoulde ſurely be, of the penninge of the ſayde Anaſtro, becauſe the ſayde Iohn was not of vnderſtandinge ſufficient to haue done it.

Being demaunded whether he knewe not the dagge which was ſhewed him, and wherewith the ſaid Iaureguy wounded his excellencie. He ſaith that he hath ſeene the ſame dagge or the lyke of it aboue ſixe monethes ſince in the houſe of the ſaide Annaſtro, who ſent

three

three others like the ſame into Spaine. One to Don Ferdinand of Arieta, an other to Don Diego of Alua, and the thirde to Peter Lopes of Arieta: but hee knoweth not who made them, how muche they coſt, either who paide for them whether the ſayde Annaſtro or his purſeberar.

Being demaunded, from whence came or who made the greene wax candle, vpon the nether end whereof the ſigne of the Croſſe was paynted, which the ſayde Iaureguy bare vpon his naked bodye together with a quoyne of the ſauiour, and the Image of our Ladie Marye, all which was ſhewed to the ſayde deponent, he ſaith that it is one of the candles which vſually are giué to pilgrims when they viſite the monaſterye where the crucifixe of Burgos in ſpaine doeth ſtand: and that the Ieſuites made the Image at Madrill: but of whom the ſayde Iaureguy had them he wotteth not.

Being demaunded what were the laſt wordes that the ſaide Iohn vſed vnto the ſaide deponent? he ſaith that the laſt time he ſpake with him he ſaid vnto him, that hee was fully determined to execute and accompliſh his enterpriſe: conſidering he was alreadie ſhriuen: wherefore it were good the ſaid deponent ſaued him ſelfe. wherevnto the ſaide deponent anſwered that he wiſt not whether to goe or where to ſaue him ſelfe, for that he ſtoode charged with his ſayde maſter Annaſtros bookes and writinges and therefore that according to his promiſe he would remaine with them.

Being

Beinge demaunded to whome the ſaid Iaureguy was ſhriuen, he ſaith to a certaine mũck named father Antony

Being demaunded vvhether the ſaide father Antonye knevve of their enterprise, when or by vvhom, he saith that he this deponent neuer conferred vvith the saide father Anthony, neyther knevve that any other conferred vvith him eyther secretly or openly, except that the sayd Iohn Iaureguy toulde him that hee had confeſſed him selfe to the sayd father Anthony, and had conferred vvith him of this matter, vvherevnto Annaſtro, Iaureguy and hee the deponent vvere priuie, and that hee had absolued him.

Being demaunded vvhether he knevv, vvhether the sayde Gasper Annaſtro or any other had framed the like practise againſt the person of the moſt noble Queene of Englande, or againſte the moſt noble Duke of Anjou? ſaith that he thinketh no.

Being demaunded vvhether he knovv the letter vvriten frõ Dunkirke the 16 of march the ſuperſcription & tenure vvhereof vvere red vnto him? ſaith, yea & that Annaſtro vvrote it vvith his ovvne hand. Alſo that the other letter encloſed therein, is of the ſame sorte and likevvise vvritten by him.

Being demaunded vvhether the letter vvritten from Grauelinge the 17 of this moneth of March vvere vvrote by the saide Annaſtro hee sayth yea, and that all vvas done for the atteyning to the execution of this enterprise: as is euident by the contentes of the same.

Being

Being demaunded whether the saide Iaureguy had any house ready, or any other meane to saue himselfe after the execution of this trespas, he saith, no: but that he was fully resolued to dy after he had brought this offence to passe: for the saide Anastro had so perswaded him to doe this deede that hee seemed euen bewitched: in such wise as after he hadde hearde masse, and broken his fast, hauing drunck a good cup of bastard he departed very cherfully out of the house of the saide Anastro.

Beinge demaunded what he was who beinge on horsbacke and leading a spare horse sadled walked vp and dovvne before his excellencies Court at the same time that this deede was donne? he saith, that he knevv nothinge thereof: also that freely hee vvoulde shevve vvhatsoeuer he knevve, considering that he hath alreadie declared vnto them matters of greater importance: and that hereof especiall he is ignorant.

The saide Venero beinge vvilled to name and reueale all those vvhome he knevve or thought to be priuie to any thing concerning the saide enterprise? he saith that neyther one nor other neither in the tovvne nor other vvhere are able to speake any thing of his enterprise, but himselfe, this deponent. Iaureguy Iasper of Anastro, Iohn of Hunca and his Sonne Peter of Hunca.

The

¶LA DEPOSITION DE ANtonio Venero : la quelle de ſon propre mouuement il a faicte,& voluntairement eſcript & ſouſsignée de ſa propre main.

YO Antonio de Venero, vezino de Bilbao, hijo de Juan de Venero, de edad de diez y nueue a veynte annos poco mas o menos, aſſiſtente en la caſa y negocios del Gaſpar de Annaſtro vezino de Vitoria, deſde veynte dias del mes de Enero del anno de 1580. haſta treze de Marco de 1582. declaro lo ſeguiente que me ha acconteſcido con el dicho Gaſpar de Annaſtro, ſiendo preguntado dello del ſenor Malgraue, Burgomaeſtre, y Eſclauineo deſta villa de Anberes, diziendo la verdad ſobre iuramenta, y ſobre mi alma y mi cõſcientia, promettienno dezir toda la verdad ſin encubrir coſa alguna, por auerme prometiendo los dichos ſennores Malgraue, Burgomaeſtre, y Eſclauines a interceſſion del ſennior Eſteuan Roquen Coronel de la dicha villa de Anberes, de diziendo todo lo que me conſta, de darme muerte honroſa, y a medita de mi deſſeo y contentamiento, y Saſerdote para confeſſarme y comulgarme por lo que roca à la honra de mi linnage. E yo el dicho Antonio de Venero confiando en la palabra y nobleza de los dichos ſennores de que aſſi lo cumpliran, digo lo ſeguiente.

PRIMERAMENTE, *es, que Juan de Yſunca vezino de Victoria, proueedor de fue de las armadas en eſtos eſtados, eſcriuio al dicho Annaſtro vna carta de Lisbona, aura diez meſes poco mas o menos, en que le pedia diuerſos menages, ſin auerle eſcripto haſta entonces, diziendole que ternia por coſa nueua el*

auer carta ſuya, mas que lo hazia por eſtar en Lisbona, ſupplicandole le embiaſe lo que pedia. Y el dicho Gaſpar de Annaſtro le reſpondió con palabras corteſanas, eſcuſando ſe de no embiar ſelos, auiendolo hecho por no auerle embiado dineros, y por verſe a la ſazon rico, y ſin gana de fiarle lo que le pedia. Y el dicho Juan de Yſunca reſpondio à eſtio, rogandole ſe los embiaſſe, porque le hazian mucha falta, hallandoſe en Lisbona por conſeruar ſu autoridad, atento que entendia que ſu Mageſtad le queria dar vn cargo muy honroſo, y que lo hizieſſe, porque le communicarta vn negocio de grandiſſima importancia, y que redondaria en gran bien, honor, y beneficio ſuyo. Otra vez le reſpondiò con nueuas eſcuſas, y d' eſtilo corteſano, y en effecto jamas le embio dichos menajes: pero le eſcriuio que que negocio podia ſer el que lo cometia, y de tanta importancia, y que ſe lo auiſaſſe. Eſtas des cartas arriba vi yo el dicho Antonio de Venero, y deſpues vino la reſpueſta d' eſta carta, en que el dicho Juan de Yſunca declaro el negocio, y leyo la carta: y de entonces aca me ordenó a mi el dicho Antonio de Venero que no le abrieſſe ninguna carta que vinieſſe cerrada à la corteſana. Y en eſte tiempo, que pudieron ſer cinco o ſeys meſes, poco mas o menos, anduuieron los dichos Juan de Yſunca y Gaſpar de Annaſtro en demandas y reſpueſtas, eſcriuiendoſe cartas vnos a otros con mucho ſecreto, y el dicho Gaſpar de Annaſtro le reſpondia en ſu camara ſiempre de ſu mano, cerrando las cartas con lacre, y lo mas diſfracado que podia. En todo eſte tiempo eſtuue yo el dicho Antonio de Venero innocente de tal caſo, echando imaginacion que le trataua caſamiento con la hija de Juan Ruyz de Vergara, hermano de Franciſco Ruyz de Vergara

gara, que ha viuido en Anberes, por auerselo escripto al dicho Gaspar de Annastro donna Maria de Ysunca su madre, y que como sabian estaua rico, y era de los mas qualificados de dicha Vitoria, se la darian con muchos ducados. Y como digo yo el dicho Antonio de Venero entendi que estos serian los secretos y que tardauan en resoluerse, porque pediria el dicho Annastro aun mas dote de lo que offressian, por gozar con mas largueza de su grauedad. Despues parece ser que se perdieron dos naos Flamencas que yuan a Latedo, y que fue robada en Plemua la nao de Philipe Dorio que yua tambien à Biscaya. En las quales dichas tres naos tuuo muy gruessas perdidas, de que el se vio con grandissimo trabajo y descontento de espiritu, sin saber que hazerse para poder passar adelante con su honor. En este instante escriuio el dicho Juan de Ysunca al dicho Gaspar de Anastro, sin saberlo yo tampoco, yera que hiziesse matar a su Excellencia el Principe d' Orange, y que lo tenia tratado con su Magestad en grandissimo secreto, sin que nadie lo supiesse, sino entre los dos: y auia hecho hazer à su Magestad vna capitulacion firmado de su mano, en que le prometia, despues de sabido la nueua cierta dela muerde su Excellentia, ochenta mil duchados en dinero, o el valor d' ellos en renta, y vn habito de Santiado, y que esto estaua por escrito, y que aun haria otras muchas cosas, de darle argos honrosos: porque auia dicho y assegurado el dicho Juan de Ysunca à su Magestad, que el dicho Annastro era vn hombre de muy claro entendimento, y de muchas prendas. En este instante a mi el dicho Antonio de Venero no me consta que este negocio lo supiesse persona nascida: antes me asseguro al parecer mio, que por ninguna cosa del

mundo se descubriera el dicho Gaspar de Annastro de ninguna nacion estrangera para tal caso. Y questo caso que en Anberes no ny Espanioles à quien poderlo descubrir, torno à dezir, que verdaderamente me parece que no lo dixo à persona ninguna, y esto affirmo assi por no poder penetrar otra cosa. Aora tras este tiempo, aura como vn mes, tuuo recelos de otra desgracia nueuamente, de que deuian de ester attaiados de hazienda de mercaderes, con qnien el tenia muy gruesso interesse, de quiantidad de nueue mil quinientas libras de gruesso, poco mas o menos de mercaderias qu' el le auia embiado, y cargazones que auia hecho para embiar à ellos, por cuenta de algunos Ingleses de Londres, y par letras de cambio que auia acceptado y pagado llanamente por ellos. Y viendose in tantos trabaios, y que d'este vltimo el no tenia culpa alguno, pues si a el le haziau bancoroto con tanta summa, el no lo podia remediar en ninguna manera, de se ausentar tambien. Y en este instante me llamo à su camara a mi el dicho Antonio de Venero, y encargandome mucho el secreto, y llorando muchas lagrimas, me dixò la substancia declarada, y de lo tratado con el dicho Juan de Ysunca, y me mostrò algunas cartas de las qu'l dicho Juan de Ysunca le auia escripto, en que le hazia buenas todas las promessas suso declaradas, y las cartas venian escriptas diabolica e ingeniosamente sin firma, y el dicho Juan de Ysunca paresce ser que dio cuenta del negocio en Espana a vn hyo suyo que estaua en Madrid, llamado Pedro de Ysunca Le Queytio, y este mismo tambien le escriuia por muy buen termino, assegurandole la misma substancia con muchas prendas, y firmandose en la firma Apodaca. Estas cartas quemo en el aposento despues de

auerme

auerme mostrado (como digo) la substancia dellas. Y en esto comenso à discurrir conmigo, dizendo, que no queria verse à resistir tantas affrentas, como se le apareiauan, y que se queria encomendar à Dios de todo coracon, y matar el mismo à su Excellencia el Principe de Orange: y que si le acauassen, por cierto que el queria quedor alli, por que era maior morir, que no viuir (siendo el quien era) en affrenta, de que le dixiessen por el en la bolsa de Anberes, mirad aquel hombre que a hecho bancaroto, y que llegandolas cosas a este termino ninguno, consideraria à que no era la culpa suya: sino echarle mucha culpa quando no la tuuiesse, y que deuia muchos dineros en Anberes a los principales, y que tenian mando en la tierra, y le perseguirian cruelmente, y que assi determinaua de morir, y que y a sabia que lleuaua la muerte tragada: pero que conesto se encubriria, y que no se attribuyra a dar nombre de bancaroto à su desgracia. Todo lo dezia llorando. Y yo viendole tan desconsolado, lloraua mucho mas, y le rogué, que por amor de Dios no buscasse con sus manos la muerte, y que tuuiesse patiencia de las cosas que Dios hazia, y que pues no era suya la culpa, resistiesse al trabaio que le sobreuenia, mostrando rostro à sus acreedores, y la razon en la mano, que le destruyan Pedro Nunnez de Arbulu, y Pedro de cubiaur, y que con esto se sufriesse. El me respondia, que no ternia rostro para mirar à nadie, y que assi estaua en su proposito, e yo se lo contradezia mucho, diziendo otra vez, que lo encomendasse todo à Dios y aguardasse à la desgracia. En estas platicas (que eran vn dia de labor à la tarde, despues de la bolsa) entró en su aposento Andres de la Massa. Otro dia à la mannana (estando en su camara) me embió à

llamar, y dixo; Pues como os va, Antonio hermano? y le respõdi, que con mucha tristeza: y me comencó à tratar otra vez de lo passado, y que si el no mataua à su excellencia, no sabia à quien encomendarse, si yo no fuesse prouar la ventura cõ Juã de Jaureguy, vezino de Bilbao, criado suyo, que ayudaua à escriuir en el contador, porque le paresçia moco determinado para qualquiera cosa, y pobre. E yo el dicho Antonio de Venero respondi, que seria grandissimo cargo de consciencia, que el dicho Anastro diesse occasion que muriesse el dicho Juan de Jaureguy mala muerti, porque (como querian tanto à su Excellencia en toda la tierra) quãdo lo acabasse de hazer, le hariã piecas. El decia, que no, sino prẽderle, y saber del à que fin lo auia hecho, y que en esto se passarian ocho dias, despues que el vuiesse hecho el effecto, y que para esto podia partir el dicho Annastro de Anberes quatro dias antes que el lo hiziesse, y yria à Cales, y de alla despacharia vn correo à Apodaca, que es Pedro de Ysunca, Le queytio, hijo de Juan de Ysunca, en que auisasse à su Magestad, que auia salido para tal effecto, y que quedaua concertado, y que de Cales yria al campo del principe de Parma. Y quando supiesse la nueua de la muerte, embiaria aca desde el campo vna Trõpeta, pidiendo saluassen al dicho Juan de Jaureguy la vida, y que el mesmo Gaspar de Annastro escreuiria sobre el negocio, declarãdose à algunos amigos de la Villa, pidiendo la vida del dicho, y embiando firmas en blanco del Principe de Parma, para que estos sennores pidiessen lo que quisiessen en su ventaja de la religion-frera, y todo lo demas, y que con esto auria paz despues de muerto el Principe de Orange. En esto entro à la camara vn muchacho Flamenco del dicho Gaspar de Annastro, que el lleuo cõ-

sigo,

sigo, llamado Juanico, y le dixo, q̃ llamasse à Juan de Iaureguy el qual estaua escriuiendo en el contador y vino, y quando entro, me dixo à mi q̃ me salieſſe del aposento, y quedó con el en el aposento platicando. Y de alli vn rato me llamó á mi, y dixo q Iaureguy queria hazer aquello por amor d' el, y por su hõra, y q̃ le auia mostrado vn punel con q̃ lo auia de matar, estando en la tabla, o en conuersacion, y meterle el punal por detras de la oreja. y passarle, y q̃ el Iaureguy lo queria hazer de buena gana: à mi me dixo que que me paresscia, y le respondi, q̃ mirasse por lo q̃ tocaua a la consciẽcia, y que si tal fuesse, padeceriã muchas muertes los Espannoles q̃ estauã en Anberes, de pesar de ver muerto, al Principe si le matassen, y que yo me queria yr de la tierra por no peligrar de la vida: y me dixo, que nó tuuiesse miedo, q̃ como el Iaureguy dixisse la verdad claramente, no tocarian en la casa, ni harian cosa ninguna. En esto aconsejo al Iaureguy que por amor de su honra y d' el, que quedasse resuelto el hecho, y q̃ aquel mismo dia fuesse à espiar como comia su excellencia, y assi lo hizo tres o quatro vezes: y decia, q̃ tenia gran esperanca de hazerlo, y aqui tenia grãdes platicas con el Iaureguy, como persona que auia de acometer tal cosa. Y pensando mas en ello, à la postre estuuierõ en duda, de si seria con punal, o pistolete. Y el Iaureguy dezia q̃ nunca auia tirado pistolete, ni sabia como tirarle: y le dixo, q̃ lo fuesse à prouar en alguna parte con algun amigo, diziendo que el dicho Iaureguy fuesse Flamenco, y que non hablasse otra lengua: y le dixo, de si, como lo hizo. Andãdo en esto, llego carta de Londres, en que dezian, que Pedro de cubiaur era ausentado, y con esta occasion le to mo gran gana de yrse, y se despedio en la bolsa de algunos, y se fue arrebatadamẽte. El Martes, ò Miercoles despidiẽdose de todos los de cãsa innocẽte

mente para boluer luego (saluo del dicho Juan Jauregui, y de mi el dicho Antonio de Venero) y me escriuio desde Bruias dos cartas, la vna general, y la otra d'este negocio: de que la general mostré à Martin de Varron, Pedro de la Penna, Antonio Spinola, y à algunos otros, y despues la queme, y di la otra carta al dicho Jaureguy, y la leyó, porque dezia le parescia fuisse con pistolete, y el otro dixo que estaua bien, y que assi lo haria y lo dezia con mucha alegria, y quemo tambien la otra carta, y me dixo, que se queria confessar, y se fue fuera de casa à hazerlo, sin que yo preguntasse al dicho Jaureguy con quien, y me dixo se auia confessado y comulgado, y despues estaua ya presto para hazerlo quando el quisiesse, sin aguardar à nada. Y assi este Domingo passado, diez y ocho d'este oyó Missa en casa como à las onze horas, y despues se fue, e hizo lo que parece ser, que cierto aun yo lo no se. Y para descargo de mi consciencia digo que no me consta que tenga ninguno otro culpa en este negocio: y que assi los que mas estan presos deuen ser sueltos y libres, por hallarlos yo innocentes. Y si à mi el dicho Antonio de Venero (por auer descubierto mi coraçon, y dicho quanto he podido y se me ha accordado) quisieren V. S. hazer misericordia de saluarle la vida (pues el que hizo el mal es muerto, e yo no fuy auctor d'ello) lo reconoscere toda mi vida.

El dicho Gaspar de Annastro nos prometio al dicho Juan de Jaureguy, y à mi el dicho Antonio de Venero, que si à quello se hazia, nos ternia por proprios hijos, y que no auria cosa partida, sino que su hazienda seria nuestra propria: y otras palabras desta manera. Y el dicho Jaureguy dixó, que no queria ninguna cosa, y que lo hazia por amor d'el, y por auer comida su

pan; e yo le quité el sombrero temblando, y dandole á entender como temia de la muerte; y el me asseguraua que no me tocarian en vn pelo de la cabeca.

Soubsigné.

Godofridus Montens. Zuerius. Blomart.

Antonio de venero.

Siendo esta confesion preleyda al dicho declarante fuera de la carcel debaxo del cielo, ha persistidio en ella, liendo assi verdad en presentia de los Esclauines aqui abaxo firmado, fecho á xxvj. de Marco 1582.

Zuerius. *Blomart.*

D.

The dipoſition of Anthony Venero which of *his owne motion he made and willingly writ* and ſubſcribed with his owne hand.

I Anthony of Venero, borne in Bilbao, the ſonne of Iohn of Venero, of the age of 19. or 20. yeares little more or leſſe aſſiſtant in the houſe and affaires of Iaſper of Annaſtro borne in Victoria, from the 20 day of Ianuary, 1580. vnto the xiii. of March. 1582. doe as followeth declare, what happened vnto me with the ſayde Iaſper of Annaſtro, being thereof examined by my Lords the Margraue, Borowmaſters and Sheriffes of this towne of Andwerpe, and doe promiſe vpon my oath, ſoule and conſcience to ſhew the whole trueth therof: not to cloke or conceale any thing; whervpon the ſaid Lords, the Margraue, Borowmaſters and Sheriffes haue by the intreatie of the Lord Steuen Racquet Coronall of the ſaid towne of Andwerpe promiſed mee that confeſſing whatſoeuer I do know, they will grant me an honourable death, agreeable to my deſire and contentation, with a Prieſt alſo to confeſſe me and to conferre withall, becauſe it cõcerneth the honour of my ſtocke: I Anthony of Venero repoſing my ſelfe vpon the worde and nobilitie of the ſaid Lordes, touching the accomplishment thereof, doe ſay as followeth.

Firſt that Iohn of Yſunca borne in Victoria, aforetime Commiſſioner ouer the furniture of the armies in theſe partes, writ a letter to Iaſper of Annaſtro of Lisbone, about

bout ten moneths ſince, wherein he requeſted of him certaine goods, whereof hee had neuer before written vnto him: he ſaid it would be newes to him to ſee any of his letters, and that he did this, that ſo hee might be at Lisbonne, requeſted him to ſend him that which he demãded. Hereunto the ſaide Iaſper of Annaſtro aunſwered in friendly words, excuſing him ſelfe for not ſending them, as wel vpon that, he had not ſent money, as becauſe he founde not him ſelfe of wealth ſufficient, and ſo could not truſt foorth that which he demanded. whereto Iohn of Yſunca anſwered, requeſting him to ſend the ſaid moueables, for that at Lisbonne he ſtood in great neede of them for the conſeruation of his authoritie, cõſidering that his Maieſtie would commit vnto him a very honourable office: and that therfore he would do it: for he would communicate vnto him a matter of very great importance, which would redound to his great benefite and honour. To the which the ſayde Annaſtro replied againe with new excuſes and courteſies, but in deede ſent him not the ſaid moueables, only he deſired to vnderſtand what matter of ſo great importance it might be that he would communicate vnto him, whereof he deſired him to aduertiſe him. Theſe two letters aforeſaid did I the ſaid Anthony of Venero ſee, afterward came the anſwere of this letter wherein the ſaid Iohn of Yſunca opened the matter, and when Annaſtro had red the ſaide letter, he commanded me Anthony of Venero aforeſaide from thenceforth not to open any letter comming ſealed after the maner of the Court: from that time which might

be about 5. or 6. moneths ſince, the ſaid Iohn of Yſunca & Iaſper of Annaſtro haue proſecuted their purpoſes & anſweres, each writing to other very ſecretly, and the ſayde Iaſper of Annaſtro ſtill anſwering his letters with his owne hande, in his chamber cloſing his letters with harde waxe the moſt cloſlieſt that might be. Al this while was I Anthony of Venero ignorant of this fact, imagining that it was ſome marriage matter with the daughter of Iohn Ruiz of Vergara, the brother of Frances Ruiz of Vergara who had dwelt in this towne of Andwerpe, and the rather becauſe her mother the Ladie Mary of Yſunca had written to the ſaid Iaſper of Annaſtro, alſo that knowing him to be wealthie and of the beſt qualefied in Victoria, they woulde beſtowe her vpon him with ſome good number of Duckets. And as I ſay, Anthony of Venero ſuppoſed theſe to be the ſecrets, and geſſed that they deferred the finall reſolution, becauſe the ſaide Annaſtro required for her dowery and to the maintenance of her porte, more then they did offer: It afterwarde (as I remember) fell ſo out that two flemish veſſels ſayling towardes Laredo were drowned, alſo that at Plemue the Barke of Philip Dorio which was bound to Biſcaye was robbed, in which three veſſels hee loſt much, whereby he grewe into great care and anguish of mind, as one ignorant how to behaue him ſelfe to ſaue his credit, at which inſtant the ſaid Iohn of Yſunca writ to the ſaid Iaſper of Annaſtro vnwitting to me: the effect whereof was, that he ſhould procure the ſlaughter of the Prince of Orenge, his excellencie: whereof he had delt with his Maieſtie verie

rie ſecretely, in ſuche wiſe, as none but they two were acquainted therewith: alſo that hee had procured his Maieſtie to ſet downe a certaine capitulation which alſo he had ſigned with his owne hand, wherein his ſaid Maieſtie promiſed vpon the certaine newes of his excellencies death, to giue to the ſaide Annaſtro 80000. Duckates in ſiluer or the value thereof in landes, together with a commandership of S. Iames, That this was ſet downe in writing, alſo that he would beſtowe on him great benefits with ſundrie honourable offices: for the ſaid Iohn of Yſunca had tolde and aſſured his Maieſtie that the ſaide Annaſtro was a man of verie good capacitie, and great wealth. All this while, I Anthony of Venero doe not thinke that any one was able to ſpeake thereof, but rather in my opinion I durſt aſſure my ſelf that in any wiſe the ſaid Annaſtro would not make any of whatſoeuer nation or condition, priuy thereunto: ſo that as in Andwerpe there be no Spaniardes able to detect him, ſo doe I againe affirme, that certainly I thinke he diſcloſed it to none: which I do the rather verefie, becauſe I can not otherwiſe thinke. Now ſhortly after this, and as it were a moneth ſince hee had ſome inckling of an other newe miſchance, namely of two Marchaunts that were about to break, by whom he was in hazard of 9500. flemish or thereabout, for certaine marchandiſe that hee had ſent them, and other goods vpon accompts of ſundrie English men of London: as alſo by reaſon of certaine billes of exchaunge which hee had accepted and faithfully payed to their vſes: whereby ſeeing him ſelfe entangled in ſo many

troubles, alſo that of this laſt loſſe he was in no default, and not knowing any remedie but by abſenting him ſelfe, conſidering they had played banqueroute with ſo greate ſommes of his: he cauſed mee Antony of Venero to bee called into his chamber, and charging me verie ſore to be ſecret, with teares runninge downe his cheekes, he declared vnto mee the ſubſtance of the aforeſaide treatie with Iohn of Yſunca, shewinge mee certaine of thoſe letters, which the ſaid Iohn Yſunca had written vnto him wherein he aſſured him of all the promiſſes aboue ſpecified, which letters were written deuilishly and ſubtilly without any ſubſcription: and it ſeemeth that the ſaide Iohn of Yſunca hath imparted this matter to a Sonne of his who remained at Madrill called Peter of Yſunca le Querpio, who alſo writ to him in verie good ſpeaches, aſſuring him of the ſubſtaunce of all abouesaide by many meanes, writing in the ſubſcription, *Apodaca*. Theſe letters, hauing, as I ſaide. shewed me the ſubſtance of them, did he burne in his chāber: and thereupon entred into diſcourſe with me, ſaying that he neither would ne could diſgeſt ſo many shames as were prouided for him; therefore hee commendinge him ſelfe to almightie God with all his hearte, he would with his owne handes ſlaye my Lord the Prince of Orenge his excellencie, and that in caſe he performed not that murder, introth he had rather perish in the place, coueting rather to dye then to liue ſo dishonorablye, as it should be ſaid of him in the burſe at Anwerpe, ſee yonder man is become banqueroupt: which if it should ſo fall out, no man would

would iudge where the faulte is, but would rather impute it vnto him, though he were not faulty. Alſo that he oughte much monie in Anwerpe euen to the beſt and to ſuch as there bare authoritie, who woulde with rigour proceede againſt him, and therefore that he determined to dye, yea, and that he knewe that alreadie he bare death ſwallowed downe within him, but that by this meanes he ſhould couer and get glory to his bancqueruptshippe and diſcredit. All this ſpake he with teares: whereupon I ſeeinge him ſo diſcomforted wept much faſter, and beſought him for Gods loue not to ſeeke his death by his owne hands, to be patient in Gods doings: and the fault was not in him ſelfe, to withſtand ſuch aduerſities as might happen in shewing a good face to his creditoures, and to let them know the reaſons, how Peter Nunnes of Arbule and Peter of Cubiaur vndid him, and that he shoulde ſtande him ſelfe vpon this, whereto he anſwered that he had not the face to looke vpon any man, and therefore that he was determined to perſiſt in his purpoſe, wherein I contraried him ſtifly, ſundrie times willinge him to referre all to God and to attend better happe. Vpon this communication (which paſſed in an euening after burſe time) Andrew de la Malla who notwithſtanding he remaineth in the ſame houſe, is innocent of all, came into his chamber, ſo that by reaſon of the ſaide Andrewes comminge in, we brake off talke for that night. The next morninge the ſaide Anaſtro being in his chamber, ſent for me and ſaide. Now, brother Antony how do you, I anſwered, but poorely, hereupon

he

he beganne againe to reenter into the former matter saying that if he him selfe should not slay his excellencie, he wist not to whome to committe the doing thereof, except paraduenture to his man Iohn Iaureguy borne in Bilbao, who holpe to write in the counting house, because he seemed a stayed and resolute yong man to anie intent whatsoeuer, and poore withall. Then I Antony of venero answered, that it would be a great burden to his conscience, if the saide Annastro shoulde procure the said Iaureguy any vile death: for seeinge his excellency was so well beloued throughout the whole towne, hee could no sooner haue done the deede but he should be hewen in peeces. Nay saide Annastro, but they will rather apprehende him to the ende to learne for what purpose he did it, so as seuen or eight dayes after the deede, would be spent first, and that therefore the saide Annastro might depart from Anwerpe foure dayes before the deede, and so go to Caleys from whence he might dispatche a post to Apodaca who is Peter of Ysunca le Quetio the Sonne of Iohn Ysunca, to the end to giue his maiestie to vnderstand, that he was departed for the purpose agreed vpon. Then that from Caleis he would go to the Prince of Parma his campe, and thence hauing newes of the slaughter he would sende a trompet to begge the life of the saide Iohn of Iaureguy, also that Iasper of Anastro himselfe would write concerning that matter and open him selfe vnto sundrie his friendes in the towne, requiring the life of the saide Iaureguy and sending blanckes signed by the Prince of Parma

ma, to the ende these Lordes might aske what they list for their owne aduantage concerning the Religious Vreed and all other matters, also that therewithal after the Prince of Orenges death they shoulde enioye an assured peace. Hereupon a Flemish boy belonging to the said Annastro named Ioannico, whom he hath taken with him came into the Chamber, whom he commãded to call Iohn Iaureguy who was writing in the comptinghouse, whē he was come he caused me to depart out of the Chamber, then hauing a while talked with him, hee called mee againe, and shewed me that Iaureguy for his sake and honour would doe it, also that he had shewed him a Dagger wherewith he should kill him either at the Table or in anye other company by thrusting in the Dagger and wounding him behinde the eare: that Iaureguy would doe this with a verie good wil, whereupon hee asked my opinion? I answered that hee should looke well vnto it, because it touched his conscience further, because that if this matter were brought to passe, they would slay all the Spaniards in Anwerpe for sorow of the Princes death, and therefore I had rather forsake the towne then venture my life. But he willed mee not to feare, saying that although Iaureguy should openly cõfesse the truth, yet would no man medle with his house, neither would be any further pursuite: and therefore hee counselled the said Iaureguy in that matter to continue stedfast for the loue of his honour and himselfe: also the same day to go to espie in what maner his excellencie did eate, which he did three or foure times, for that he said hee

was in good hope to bring his purpose to passe. After this hee vsed much speech with the saide Iaureguy, as with the man who should commit such a hainous fact. Finally, hauing better considered of the matter, they began to doubt whether it were better to bee done with a Dagger or with a Dagguer. For Iaureguy said, that he neuer shot in Daggue, neither knew how to discharge it, the other willed him to repaire to some friend of his to trie it and to counterfeite himselfe to be a Fleming, & not to vse any other language, whereto he granted, & did so. During these practises there came letters from London, importing that Peter of Cubildur had absented himself, vpon which occasion he thought best to depart, so hauing dispatched some at the Bourse sodenly vpon a Tuesday or Wednesday hauing taken his leaue of all the household he went his way, seeming as if he would shortly come again, except of the said Iohn of Iaureguy & the Antony of Venero, and from Bruges hee writ me two Letters, the one general, the other concerning this matter. The Generall Letter I shewed to Martin of Varon, Peter de la Penna, Anthony Spinula, and some others and so burned them. The other I deliuered to Iaureguy who redde it, because therein he saide, that he thought the Daggue had beste: the other saide that he could well doe it so, the which hee spake verie cheerfully and then burned this Letter also, and told me that he would be shriuen, and so went forth of the doores, neither did I euer aske him to what Confessour he would goe. After ward hee tolde mee that he was shriuen and houseled, and that now he was rea-

dio

die vpon any opportunitie without any let to execute his purpose. Thus vpon this last Sunday the 18. of this moneth, about eleuē of the clock he heard Masse in the house and so departed and did that which seemeth to bee done, not that I doe certeinly know it as yet: wherefore for the discharge of my cōscience I doe say, that I cannot perceiue any other to be guiltie of this deed, and therefore that the others who are apprehended ought to bee released & deliuered, because in my minde they be innocent. Now therfore if your Lordships, would grant to me Anthony of Venero pardon and to saue my life, as hauing opened the verie bottome of my heart and saide all that I know, besides that hee who committed the mischiefe is dead alreadie, I should be bound to you all my life long.

Moreouer, the saide Iasper of Annastro promised vnto vs the saide Iohn of Iaureguy and me Antony of Venero: that this being accomplished, he would accompt vs as his owne naturall children: also that nothing should bee parted betweene vs, but that all should be our owne proper goods, & such like speeches. The said Iaureguy answered, that he would haue nothing, but that that which he did, hee did for his loue, and because he had eaten his bread, and I quaking, put of my hatte, giuing him to vnderstande howe sore I feared death, whereupon he assured me that no man would once touch any heare of my head.

This confession being red vnto the said deponent without the prison upon the Bridge openly, he persisted in the same his confession, confirming it to be the trueth. Giuen the 26. of March. 1582. in the presence of the vnder named.

Zuerius *Bloemart.*

Seyendo el dicho Antonio de Venero (puesto sobre el atormentando) preguntado quien podrian mas hauer sabido d'esta empresa? Dize ningunos otros, que los por el aqui delante nombrados.

Preguntado si d'esta impresa no han sabido Andres de la Maça, Pedro d'Orosco, Pedro de la Peña, o Valentin de Meurs? Dize que no.

Preguntado si no se acuerda que (estando à la mensa del dicho Anastro su amo se platicò y disputò si era licito dematara su Excell. por zelo de la fee) el Clerigo Antonio Timmerman entonces declaro: què se podria hazer sin pecado? Dize que d'ello no se acuerda.

Preguntado si no sabia quien era el que estaua à Cauallo iunto al Castillo quando el dicho efeto era complido? Dize que no.

Y era dicho examination firmedà por los dichos Senores Esclauines I. Zuerius. L. Blomaert.

Another Examination taken the 24. of the same Moneth of March 1582.

THe saide Antony of Venero being vpon the racke examined what other persons might haue had intelligence of this enterprise? saith no other then those whome he hath afore named.

Being demaunded whether Andrew della Massa, Peter of Otosco, Peter della Renna, or valentine de Meurs knew nothing

nothing of the ſaid enterpriſe, he ſaith, No.

Being demaunded whether he remembreth not that when ſome ſpeache and argument paſſed at the ſaide Annaſtros his maſters table, whether for zeale of religion it were lawfull to ſlaye his excellencie. The mouncke Antony Timmerman did then affirme, that it might lawfully be done without ſinne. He ſaith that he remembreth it not.

Being demaunded whether he knoweth not who he was that was on horſebacke before the Caſtle when the deede was executed? he ſaith, No.

This examination was conferred before the ſaid Lords Sheriſes, Iohn Zuerius and Thomas Bloemart.

The examination of Antony Timmerman, taken in the preſence of the Lords the Markegraue, Godfrey Montens, M. Iames Zuerius, and Lewis Bloemart, Sheriſes of the towne of Anwerpe the 18. 19. & 20. day of March. 1582.

ANtony Timmerman borne in Dunkirke of the age of thirtie & one yeares, ſometimes mouncke of the order of the whit fryers, hauing his chamber in the longnewſtreete at the golden horſe.

Being demaunded what acquaintance he hath in the houſe of Iasper Annaſtro, ſaith that diuers times he hath ſaide maſſe in the houſe of the ſaid Annaſtro, alſo that he hath ſent others thither for the ſame purpoſe, and that there-

therefore he had his finding as Chapleine to the Spanish nation, and that the said Annastro payde him.

Being demanded what priuate communication he hath had with one Iohn Iaureguy a Spaniard of Biscaye in the house of the saide Annastro, saith, that the saide Iaureguy vpon Friday last came to him to shrifte, desiring also to receiue the Sacrament at his hande, which he ministred vnto him, for the which the saide partie gaue him two double Pistolets of gold, desiring the said Confessour to pray for him. Also that according to the discription of his stature and apparell that hee ware, it seemeth to be the same person who vpon Sunday at noone discharged a Dagge against his excellencies person.

Being demanded, what the saide Iaureguy gaue him to vnderstande concerning this deede, either in his confession, or before or after the same, Also whether hee did not shewe him what he was promised for the performance of that act: saieth that the saide Iaureguy did confesse vnto him, that the saide Iasper of Annastro would him self haue done it, if he could not haue perswaded him thereto: saying moreouer that he would execute the saide deede the same Friday at dinner, and that only for the glory of God and because his father being an olde man should be relieued.

Being

Being demaunded, whether he tolde not the ſayd confeſſor in what place he was purpoſed to doe this deede, & with what weapons: ſaith, that he told him that he purpoſed to doe it at the table as hee thought, but ſhewed him not with what weapons.

Being demanded, whether the ſaid confeſſor did finally abſolue the ſaide Iauregui, ſo as he might execute his pretended deed, which afterwarde hee committed againſt the perſon of his excellencie: Confeſſeth that he abſolued the ſaid Iauregui in this maner: That if he did not execute it for lucre of money, but only for the glory of God and of a zeale to the Catholike Roman Religion, that thē it was lawfull for him to doe it, giuing him thereypō abſolution, hauing neuertheleſſe before repreſented to his view all ſuch dangers as might ſpring forth of the ſaid deed.

Being demāded, whether he enquired of Iauregui if any other were able to ſpeake the pretence of the executiō of the ſaid deed: ſaith, that he ſhewed hī that no mā was able to ſay any thing therof, but only the ſaid Iaſper Annaſtro, Antony of Venero, and an other man a Spaniard, whō he named not either by name or ſurname: but that the ſaid cōfeſſor confeſſeth that it was a young man whom he had often ſeene about the ſame time cōming & going to the ſame houſe: the ſaid young man being reaſonable tall of ſtature, with a black beard cut after the Spaniſh maner, of a browne pale colour, lōg & leane viſaged, about 24. or 25. yeres of age as it ſeemed

med, wearig ordinarily a spanish cassock of a gray russet, & a black cloke. Being demãded what speech passed between the said confessor & the said Iasper of Annastro, touching this deede committed against his excellencie: saith, that the said Annastro neuer spake anie thing thereof either in shrifte, or otherwise.

Being demaunded, whether the saide Iauregui shewed him not that Valẽtine de Meurs, Anthony Waechmans & Anna Haecht, seruauntes in the said Annastroes house: knew nothing of the practise of the effect of the saide deede fallen vppon his excellencie: saith, that the persons afore named knewe nothing thereof as the saide Iauregui told him, & declared in his confession.

Being demãded, whether the said Annastro, Iauregui or Anthony of Venero, said not vnto him that the king had by Iohn of Yssica made great promises to the said Annastro, for the performing of the deede fallen vpon his excellencie: saith, that hee neuer knew or heard that of anie bodie.

Being demãded, whether he the saide cõfessor hath not afore time bin in the house of the saide Annastro, whẽ sitting at the table he was demãded whether it were lawfull for any mã without offence, to slay his excellencie, what answere was made thereto, whẽ it was, & who were there present: declareth that the said Annastro hath sũdrie times moued that question to him: & namely at the table in dinner time, or so soone as the table was taken vp, either the first or second saterday before Candlemas,

mas, & that there were then preſent Andrew de la Maſſa, Anthony of Venero, & Valētine de meurs: & that he this confeſſor anſwered that no particuler or priuate perſon might doe it, but that it perteined only to the iuſtice. Wherto the ſaid Annaſtro (as he remembreth) replied, that the king being a publike perſon might command another to doe it: wherupō this ſaid confeſſor ſaid, that it was not lawfull for anie mā with money to buy an others life. He declared farther that about 14. daies ſince, he the ſaid confeſſor being at the table, or els ſoone after they were riſen, heard de the ſaid Annaſtro vſe theſe or ſuch like wordes: Valla me dios no ai en eſta tierra Flamenco que ſe atreua à eſte Principe de Oranges? whereto he the ſaid confeſſor replied ſaying, Los Flamencos no ſon tan furioſos como vos otros. Where the ſaide Maſſa was not then preſent, but was departed into Holland.

This Confeſſion beeing read before the ſayde Confeſſor vpon the bridge of the borow, vnder the open element, he being loſed & vndone, he perſiſted in the ſame in the preſence of the ſheriffes this 26. of March. 1582.

Subſcribed, Zuerius, and L. Bloemart.

Sennor Hermanno,

DE Brujas os eſcrqui ayer, y aura dos horas que llegue aqui, y no he podido hallar

a Pedro de çubiaur, ni saber d' el, mas de que vn maestro dize, que passo de Doura à Cales ocho dia vn hõbre casi de sus señas. Yo passo de mala gana à Cales, por el tiempo que pierdo en boluer a casa: y a demas desto, el viento es cõtrario, y no podre partir oy, pero sera mãnana Sabado plaziendo à Dios. Al señor Antonio Espinola beso las manos, y que tengo gana de boluerme. Al señor Andres dela Maça beso tãbien las manos. Yo os encomiẽdo que tengays cuenta de lo que haz que hazer hasta que yo buelua: de papeles y assignaciones como de lo demas, que yo me dare la priessa que pudiere. Pagareys luego à Hernando de Nagera las 402. libras que Baltasar de Burgos escriuio se le diessen, porque de Cales le tengo de escreuir que estan pagadas, embia de quitaça dello. A Valentin me encomiendo, y à Iaureguy dezid que os ayude en lo dela escritura, y nuestro Señor, &c. En Duquerch 16. de Março 1582.

El subscripto era.

Vuestro hermano Annastro.

Annastros letter written from Dunkirke.

My Lord and brother.

YEsterday I wrote vnto you frõ Bruges, & I arriued here 2. houres since, but cannot yet find M. Peter of Cubiaur, either heare any other newes of him: but that a master of a ship shewed me, that about 8. daies since there was one like him that passed from Douer to Callais. Very vnwilling I am to goe to Callais least losing my time I shall not come soone enough home. Besides the wind being cõtrary I cannot depart this day, but to morrow being

ing

ing ſaterday, if it pleaſe God I ſhal. I humbly greet maſter Anthony Spinula & am very deſirous to returne home. I alſo hũbly greet Andrew Maſſa. I pray you ſet to your hãd to any thing that is to be done before my returne, as well for writings and aſſignations, as for any other matter. For my parte I will make as much haſt as I may. You ſhall preſently pay Ferdinãde of Nagera the 402. pounds that Baltaſſar of Burgos hath written to be deliuered him; for from Callais I will write that they be payd. And ſend him the acquittance. I cõmend me to Valentine, & wil Iauregui to helpe you in your writinges. Our Lorde &c. At Dunkirck this 16. of March 1582.

The Subſcription was,

Your brother Annaſtro.

The ſuperſcription was,

To my brother Anthony of Venero.

At Anwerpe.

To the Poſt 4. Florins ſo that he deliuer them vpon Munday at 8. a clocke in the morning, which ſhal be the 19. of March.

Sennor.

PARA pagar a Baltaſar de Burgos las quatrocientas y dos libras, no hallo otro remedio, por la breuedad d'el tiempo, ſino dezir a Hernãdo de Nagera que tenia yo orden del dico Burgos, para que ſe dieſſen a el dichas quatrocientas y dos libras, y que ſe las querays pagar luego, y que Valentin ſe las dé, y quital de luego dos quitãças vna copia de otra, en que diga que ſe las days por or-

den de Baltasar de Burgos, y que se obliga a hazer las buenas al dicho Baltasar de Burgos, y d'esta manera el dicho Burgos se podra valer dellas con su commodidad. Hazelde luego a la hora que esta recibays, antes que se haga el empleo: porque de otra manera no veo orden de que vengan a mannos d'el dicho. Y assi os ruego mucho que esto se haga luego el mismo Lunes. Dira Nagera, que no tiene auiso: direysle vos, que es hombre trabaioso, y que no quereys aguardar a esso, porque yo os lo ordiné assi, y Burgos esta desproueydo de dineros. En el empleo me parece bien lo que ay le escreui de Brujas, que se haga de la mercaderia que pide Diego Carreno, prouando la primero algunas vezes, y al tiempo del effecto ponerse vna medida, y dos rodondas: y d'esta manera se comprará con mas seguridad, y menos embaraço: y para aquel vestido tomarle la medida por detras. Esto tẽgo por mejor que lo otro, y de menos emboraço, y mas seguro: y tãbiẽ puede ponerse lo otro, para en caso de necessidad. Pensad en ello, y mirad quanto va en que el empleo se acierte. Hazed cuenta, que yo me detendre en Cales el Sabado por todo el dia, para escreuir à Apodaca, y despachar le correo, y despues he menester tres dias para assẽtar mi cuenta con aquel hombre, y dezirle lo qui cõuiene, porque vaya todo per ordẽ: y despues se podra hazer quãdo el corredor quisiere, y dezilde que le de Dios buena dicha, y que consideres bien lo mucho que importa que el empleo sea bueno.

En la margen est aua e scripto

Otra vez torno à dezir lo de Nagera, porque Baltasar de Burgos está falto de dineros, y embialde luego la vna cedula del dicho Nagera, y por esto doy esta ventaja de 1-3. libras. A Valentin y Iauregui me encomiendo mucho.

El sobre scripto era: *Para Antonio de Venero.*

I Can finde by reason of the shorteneſſe of the time no other remedie how to pay. Baltaſſar of Burgos the 402. poundes, but to ſhew Ferdinande of Nagera that I had commiſſion from the ſaide Burgos to deliuer him the ſaid 402. poundes, & that you will preſently pay him: & let Valentin pay him the monie taking of him 2. acquittãces, the one copied out of the other, wherein he muſt confeſſe that you doe deliuer the ſame to him, by the appointment of Baltaſſar of Burgos, then binde him to make them good to the ſayde Baltaſar of Burgos, & ſo may Burgos helpe himſelfe to his owne commoditie. Doe this immediately, & euen ſo ſoone as you haue receiued theſe preſentes, before the matter bee performed, for I ſee no other meanes howe they may come to his handes, wherefore I pray you heartily let this bee done this preſent munday. Nagera will ſaye that hee hath no ſuche watrant: then ſhall you aunſwere him that the manne is troubleſome, and that you will not ſtaye for that ſeeinge I haue ſo commaunded you, and

Under this talk of merchandise he meaneth the pistoll, powder & two bullets, wherewith y L. Prince should be slayne.

and that Burgos is destitute of money. It seemeth good to me e the exploite & matter were performed, in such sort as yesterday I wrote frō Bruges & that with such merchandize as Diego Carreno requireth, hauing first tried it sundrie times: & at the time of the execution therof to giue it a good measure & 2. rounds: & in this wise it may be the more surely bought, & performed with lesse hinderance. As for the garment, you must take measure behinde. I thinke this a better way then the other & of lesse hinderaunce, & most safe. Also for further assurance, the other * may be added for necessities sake. Consider hereof & marke of what importance the executiō of this exploit is. Make your accoūt that I wil stay at Calais all Saterday, there to write to Apodaca, & to dispatch the post. And afterward I shal need 3. dayes to make vp my accoūt with this man: Tell him also what is needfull to be done, that al thinges may proceed orderly, after which the matter may be dispatched, whē the * Courtier wil, & tel him also that I pray God graunt him good succesſe, & that I woulde haue him marke how necessary it is that this exploit be performed.

* This meaneth of his dagger.

* He meaneth Iauregui.

In the margent was written

Once againe I speake to you of Nagera. For Baltazar of Burgos needeth money: send therefore to him immediatly one of Nagera his letters: for this I giue him the interest of 13. lib. 4. s. I cōmend me hartily to Valentine and to Iauregui.

The Superscription was,

For Anthonie of Venero.

Sen-

Other letters of the ſaide Annaſtro.

Sennor hermano.

DE Brujas y de Dũquerch os eſcreui, yo me detuue en Dunquerch dos dias, bien deſguſtado, por ſer el tiempo tan fuerte y contrario que no pude paſſar: y aſſi me aconſejo el gouernador de Dũquerch que paſſaſſe portierra, y que era mejor: y aſſi me robo el vn paſſaporte de Grauelingas, y llegue aqui, dos horas ha, en eſta villa de Grauelingas, y mannana me yre por agua à Cales, à lo que entiendo, porque de aqui a cales por tierra eſta todo lleno de Frãceſes, que roban los que paſſã, y mas harã, ſiendos Eſpãnoles. Ha me dicho vn tal Quadra que eſtà aqui, que Pedro de çubiaur eſtuuo aqui quatro dias ha, y que entendiò que era ydo a Cales, podra ſer que allí le hallare, entre tãto hazelos lo mejor que pudieredes. Y eſſe empleo de las mercaderias ſe puede hazer a cada hora, y ſea tan bueno que los duennos no ſe quexen. No tengo mas que eſcriuir; Nueſtro Sennor, &c. Encomiẽdome a Valentin y Iaureguy. Al ſẽnor Maça beſo las manos, y Nueſtro Sẽnor, &c. En Grauelingas 17. de Março 1582. Harta ventura ha ſido aner eſcapado en el camino, ſegun andan los Frãceſes, Yo ſere alla lo mas preſto que pudiere, que ya queria ſer buelto.

El ſubſcripto Era,

Vueſtro buen hermano Annaſtro.

My Lorde and Brother.

I Wrieuce you from Bruges & Dunkirk, Two daies I abode at Dunkirke though farre againſt my minde, becauſe the weather was ſo rough & contrarie that I could not paſſe: wherefore the Go-

uernour of Dunkirke counselled mee to goe by lande (as the better waie,) & so he made me a pasport for Graueling, whether I came two houres since, from whence I will too morrowe departe by water (as I thinke) to Callais for that between this & Callais the waies be pestred with Frenche men that doe robbe the passengers, whereunto they would be more readie if they shoulde meete with anie Spanierdes. A certaine Quadra that is here told me that Peter of Cubiaur was here iiii. daies agoe, and that he hearde that hee was gone to Callais, it may be that I may find him there. In the meane time doe the best you can concerning the exploit of merchandize, it may bee done at al times, and let it bee so well done, that the masters finde no fault. I haue no more to write. But our Lorde &c. Commend me to Valétine & Iauregui. I humbly salute the Lorde Massa. Our Lord, &c. From Graueling this 17. of March 1582. It was a greate chaunce that I escaped all the waye, The French doe so range vp and downe. I will be there so soone as I may. For I wouldde with a good will be at home alreadre.

The Subscription was,

Your good brother Annafro.

After the which was written,

Giue this Post whose name is Coppenhagen that which is written vpon the letter, for guyding me hither.

His

¶ *His excellencies letters written* with his owne hande.

My L. of S. Aldegond I heare that to morow they two priſoners, his complices that ſhot at me ſhall be executed. For my owne parte I doe willingly forgiue thē whatſoeuer they may haue offended againſt me: & if peraduenture they haue deſerued ſome ſore & ſharpe puniſhment, yet be a meane to my Lordes the magiſtrates not to ſuffer them to abide any great torment. But rather if they haue ſo deſerued, to content themſelues with ſome ſpeedie death, hereuppon I bidde you good night.

Your very good friend to doe you ſeruice,
William of Naſſau.

Done in the priſon of the towne of Anwerp in the preſence of my Lordes Leſcouttet, M. Iames *Zuerius and Leus Blomaert Sheriffes, the 28. of March, 1582.*

MAiſter Anthonie Timmerman priſoner, readie to receiue his death whereunto he was yeſterday before noone cōdemned, in the Vierſchale by the borrow maſters and ſheriffes of this towne, ſaith and declareth in forme following.

Firſt, he ſaith that hauing better cōſidered of that whiche was ſpoken at the table in the houſe of Iaſper of Annaſtro, when the ſaide deponent dined

here, & that the said Amastro propoun ded & argued whether by vertue of the proscriptiõ, which the K. of Spaine hath published any man may lawfully slay his excellencies person, whereat in troth he cãnot say whether Andrew Massa were thẽ present or not, either whether this speech passed about the end or after dinner, adding moreouer that he is wel assured & certeine that Valẽtine of Meurs sate at the table that dĩner, but was then gone away. Besides al this the said cõdẽned person acknowledgeth his great ouersight & error which he held, in thinking that by vertue of the said proscription it was lawfull to slay his excellencies person? being therfore now better informed by learned men eõcerning the said opiniõ, & hauing further considered of the matter, he doth by this presẽt reuoke the same. Wherfore he requesteth the Lordes magistrates of this towne to pardõ him his said offece: Also to adde this to his former confession, & if the other be published, to publish this with all, to the ende no man thinke that he dyed in so wicked an opinion. Subscribed.

Zuerius.

The Prince of Parma his letters.

Alexander Prince of Parma and Plaisance Lieutenaunt, Gouernour and Captayne Generall.

RIght deere & welbeloued, would to God you knew as well as the inhabitantes of these parties, with what zeale & affectiõ I haue alwaies proceeded

proceeded and procured the weale, quiet & tra-
quility of theſe coũtries generally, whereof I ſeeke
no greater nor more euident teſtimony then the
paines that I haue taken, the dueties which I haue
yeelded, & the perils and dangers which I haue in-
curred in ſeeking to reſtore the hole to her auncięt
brightnes & felicitie, wherewith theſe Prouinces
were wont to floriſh. According whervnto, God
hauing vſed the death of the Prince of Orange, the
one & only inſtrument & Author of ſo many mi-
ſeries & calamities which you haue endured, as a
meane to open the way vnto you, I hope hee hath
likewiſe takẽ frõ before your eyes the vayle, which
ſtopped & kept you frõ knowing or more neerely
conſidering the ſleightes, ſuttleties & inuentions
wherwith he noriſhed your miſtruſts, & through
his owne couetouſnes & ambitiõ continued your
miſeries, yea ſo farre forth that to the ſame end hee
ſought to bring you into the ſubiectiõ & intollera-
ble yoke of thoſe, from whõ in former worlds you
haue receiued ſuch domages & enmities. Thus
much I thought good to write vnto you, to the end
to aduertiſe & aſſure you, that in caſe you wil pre-
uaile in this occaſiõ & cõmodity which god doth
offer vnto you, you ſhal not finde any man in this
world that will ayde & aſſiſt you with more ſin-
ceritie, readineſſe & affectiõ thẽ I wil: offering vn-
to you to the ſame effect whatſoeuer I may by ver
tue of the authority & eſpecial power vnto me gi-
uẽ by his Maieſtie, of whõ I am well aſſured that
you ſhal reape nõ leſſe grace & fauor, neither any

worse entertainment then those haue tried, who trusting wholly in the naturall clemencie wherewith he is endued, haue willingly cast themselues into the armes of his royall courtesie and gentlenesse. Whereupon I will expect your answere, which I pray god may be such as I desire for your owne benefite and quietnesse, also that it may be so said, that his Maiestie may haue occasion to desist from such preparation as he maketh for the atteyning to this end, by some other meanes peraduenture more violent & vnprofitable to your selues. Thus right deere & welbeloued, God haue you in his holy and worthy keeping.

From Tournay this 25, of March 1582. Subscribed,
Alexander:
And somewhat lower, F. Garmer.

The Superscription was,

To the right deere & welbeloued, the Markgraue, Amptman, Borowmasters, Sheriffes, Counsaile & *rent masters of the Towne of Antwerp.*

The like letters, mutatis Mutãdis were dispatched to the inhabitantes of Bruxelles, Gaunt, Bruges *Ypres &c.*

Annastro his letters written from Tournay.

Muy mag. Sor.

PVes ha querido N° S^or^ que el Principe de Orange aya acabado sus dias, se ha de creer que es para auer misericordia de estas tierras que estauan affligidas, y yo estoy aggradado de auer sido occasione instrumento de sa muerte, por el seruicio que deuo a mi Rey, y por la quietud y reposo que desseo a los estados: y quando mi criado no fuera sufficiẽte para hazer lo que hizo, yo tenia determi-

nado de matarle por mi mano, por laccar esta tierra del trauajo en que estaua. He querido escriuir a v.m. y al Sr. su hermano esta carta para assegurar los que pueden confiar en la misericordia que su Mag. y su Alteza del Principe de Parma dessea hazer con los de essa villa, sin accordar se de las faltas passadas; si no cõ animo de perdonarlas todas, y q todos puedá viuir pacificamente. Y pues que v. m. tiene mano para poder dar a entẽder à estos SS^res del magistrado esta buena voluntad, y tomar buen cõsejo an esse negocio, assegurádo los que en loque yo pudiere fauorescer los lo hare de muy buena gana. Y si quisierẽ empleara v.m. en ello, y al S^r. Laurentio su hermano; y lleguarse por aca, yo les embiare passa porte de su Alteza assegurádolos. Y saldre fiador por la seguridad de sus personas, y respõdãme de la voluntad que en esto tienen, y no se ofresce otra cosa por agora. N. S^r. de Tournay à 25 de março, 1582.

Besa las manos à v^es. m^ds. Gaster de Annastro, Noble Lordes.

SIth it hath pleased God to end the Prince of Orãge his daies, you are to beleeue it to be, to the end to shewe mercy to these coũtries which were afflicted: & I reioyce that I was the occasiõ & instrument of his death both for the duety I owe to my King, and for the rest and tranquillitie of these estates. For if my seruaunt had not been sufficient to doe that which is done, my selfe was resolued with my owne hande to haue slayne him, so to deliuer this coũtrie out of the touble it was

in. This

This letter I thought good to write to you & to my Lo. your brother, to the end to assure you that you may well in the mercie which his maiesty, & the P. of Parma his highnes desire to shewe to this towne: as not to thinke vpō any former faults otherwise then fullie to pardon them, so as all men may liue peaceably. Further sith it lieth in you to giue the Lords & magistrates to vnderstād of this good will, also to take good aduice cōcerning this affaire, assure thē that in what I may I wil most wil lingly pleasure them. If in this matter they wil vse you & your brother Laurēce as messēgers hither, I will send you a passeport from his highnes with all sufficient assuraunce, & will my selfe remaine pledge for the suretie of your persons. Let me vnderstand your willes herein. Thus not hauing any other thing at this present, our Lord &c. From Tournay this 25. of March. 1582.

Subscribed,

I humbly salute your Lordshippe
Iasper of Annastro.

The superscription was this,

To the noble Lordes Denis de Meurs, and Laurence de Meurs.

At Gant.